

the region have High Power Transmitters for relay of DD-1 programmes. These capitals have Low Power Transmitters for DD-2 relay.

**TV/AIR Package for NE**

**\*326. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would announce a new package for the North-East to counter the propaganda war by neighbouring countries like China, Myanmar and Bangladesh;

(b) whether the new package would cover the television as well as radio network;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ):** (a) to (d) The Government is already giving special attention the coverage of North-Eastern Region by AIR and DD. The AIR is implementing 18 projects in the North-Eastern Region under its Plan programme. DD is implementing projects for 9 transmitters and 2 transposers for DD-1 in the NER, under its Plan programme. These projects are aimed at increasing the coverage, strengthening the network and increasing utilization of local talent in programmes. A 24-hour NE channel is in operation. A sum of Rs. 4.2 crores has recently been released for software development. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to upgrade, enlarge and expand the package of programmes for the North-East for AIR and DD.

**Posts Lying vacant in the Grade of Translators etc.**

**\*327. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:** Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts of Hindi Translators/Hindi Officers/ Assistants created in his Department and allied PSUs/Attached and Subordinate Offices for propogation of Hindi as Official Language and encouragement of Hindi correspondence;

[19 March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) the number of such posts lying vacant and since when; and

(c) the reasons therefor and the steps taken to fill-up such posts urgently?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE):** (a) In the Department of Disinvestment the following posts of Hindi Translators and Hindi Officers have been created:

1. Assistance Director — One post

2. Junior Hindi Translator — Two posts

There are no PSUs/Attached and Subordinate Offices under the administrative control of the Department of Disinvestment.

(b) All the posts are filled up.

(c) Does not arise.

**Impact of Rent Control Laws on Urban Development and Housing**

**\*328. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL:** Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of rent control laws on the urban development and housing in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to make amendments in the law in Delhi and advise/suggest to the State Governments to make changes on the basis of the experience in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details and broad outlines thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN):** (a) to (c) Rent Control Legislation in many States has resulted in a freeze of rents, very low returns on investment and difficulty in resuming possession. It has also adversely affected investment in rental housing and caused deterioration of the rental housing stock. On the recommendation of a number of expert bodies, the Government decided to reform the rent legislation in the country in a way that balances the interest of both the landlords and the tenants and also stimulates future